



IAPESGW International Update, August 2018: News and resources from around the world

We want to hear about what you and your related organisations are doing and the information you are producing. You can send your information and news to any member of the executive board for inclusion in the 'Update' each month – [view their contacts details](#)

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IAPESGW Regional event - International Congress Cubamotricidad 22 - 26 October 2018, Havana Convention Center, Cuba

The World Organization of Stimulation, Education and Child Development (OMEEDI), the International Association of Physical Education and Sports for Girls and Women (IAPESGW), the International Association of Sports for All (TAFISA) with the National Institute of Sports , Physical Education and Recreation (INDER) of the Republic of Cuba, with the auspice of prestigious institutions and international organizations are convening the International Congress Cubamotricidad 2018, which will take place from October 22nd to 26th at the Havana Convention Center, Cuba.

[View a flyer for the event in English](#)

[View a flyer for the event in Spanish](#)

August Editorial

As this edition goes out the US Open tennis tournament is under way in New York, with a hot and humid start to the week. On day two, six men withdrew from their matches but no women. What a strong competitive lot we are!

Did you know that the US Open Tennis tournament was the first to pay equal prize money for women and men players, back in 1973?

A reminder to our members to check that their membership dues have been paid and are up-to-date as we are about to delete un-financial members from our database. This means that after this International Update, if you are not a current member, you will no longer receive our monthly newsletter.

This month's edition covers a lot of international news; for example:

- The University of Bristol's research showed that increasing physical activity was particularly good for women in their early 60's.
- UEFA has launched video trailers on stories about some of Europe's most famous football players, showing how they deal with personal tragedy, sexuality issues, mental health and self confidence.
- That the Chinese coach who struck one of his female players during a game was sent home from the Wheelchair Basketball World Championships
- A long report from the University of Tennessee Centre for Sport, Peace and Society about their women's leadership exchange which is now in its 10th year. 16 delegates return to their home countries to implement their action plans after studying in an American sports environment.
- A timely publication on a guide for Integration of Refugees through Sport
- More information from Northern Ireland about their progress with projects increasing girls and women's participation in sport and physical activity
- The Australian Sports Commission (now rebranded to Sport Australia) has released a national sports policy and plan with more emphasis on participation rather than high performance as in the past
- A letter from Professor Gabriele Sobiech protesting about the Hungarian government banning gender studies in Hungarian universities.

This news was extraordinary and will shock many of our members, that a government would dictate to its universities what it cannot include in its curriculum and in this case ban academic study on gender. This action is an interference in the freedom of science.

There is a lot more to read, with reports from Australia, Canada, Jamaica, Iran and the UK. Of interest in the UK was the Neilson report on the Real Value of Women's Sport. A good case for government's and sponsors to support women's sport.

Enjoy reading the August *International Update* and be active too!

Are you getting your 150 minutes of physical activity each week?

Janice Crosswhite OAM
Communications Director

International

Athletics Weekly (17 July 2018)

Women in World Athletics members meet in London

Event included expert seminars and discussion on diversity, governance reform and change management.

Against the backdrop of the Athletics World Cup – presented by Müller – the sixth edition of the Women in World Athletics (WIWA) Conference took place at the London Stadium, this one in partnership with the world athletics.

WIWA, which was launched by UK Athletics in 2013, has grown as a project; the ambition to bring women from across the world of athletics together was first mentioned back in 2011 as part of the successful bid campaign to host the IAAF World Championships London 2017.

With 2017 now passed, a further 40 delegates from 25 countries attended expert seminars in a number of key subject areas.

Day one of the event featured discussion on diversity, governance reform and change management, whilst the second day focussed on more personal aspects including building a personal brand, leadership processes and mentoring and networking opportunities.

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[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (8 August 2018)

FIG reveal constitution and rules for proposed new Ethics Foundation

The International Gymnastics Federation's (FIG) Executive Committee has approved the constitution and operational rules for its proposed new Ethics Foundation.

The world governing body has been working to set-up the body since the sexual abuse scandal which rocked the sport in the United States.

Its creation still needs to be rubber-stamped by FIG's member countries at the organisation's Congress in Baku in December, although this is expected to be a formality.

Executive Committee members met in Pacific Harbour in Fiji to approve the constitution and operational rules.

They also gave the green light to changes which need to be made to the FIG's statutes, Code of Ethics and Code of Discipline in order for the Foundation to be established.

According to the proposed constitution, the Foundation will have responsibility for "monitoring the good governance and ethical principles of the FIG", "managing disciplinary procedures" and "safeguarding athletes and other participants in gymnastics from harassment and abuse".

It is proposed that the Foundation will be made up of three sections - safeguarding, disciplinary and compliance.

The safeguarding arm would include a helpdesk for reporting harassment or abuse cases, and would be responsible for carrying out initial investigations after any complaints or accusations.

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[View the full news item](#)

University of Bristol, UK (8 August 2018)

Older adults who get physical can lower their heart disease risk

Adults in their early 60s, who spend less time sitting and more time engaged in light to vigorous physical activity, benefit with healthier levels of heart and vessel disease markers, according to new research published in the Journal of the American Heart Association, and the Open Access Journal of the American Heart Association/American Stroke Association.

The results from increased physical activity were found to be particularly good among women.

Physical inactivity is a well-known risk factor for [cardiovascular disease](#) and premature death from cardiovascular disease. Physical activity's protective effect is likely due in part to its impact on biomarkers in the blood that help predict [atherosclerosis](#) risk.

"The 60 to 64 age range represents an important transition between work and retirement, when lifestyle behaviors tend to change," said [Ahmed Elhakeem](#), Ph.D., study author and senior research associate in epidemiology at Bristol Medical School, University of Bristol. "It may, therefore, be an opportunity to promote increased physical activity."

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (13 August 2018)

Australia and New Zealand announced as bidders for 2021 Women's Rugby World Cup

Australia and New Zealand have each been shortlisted as potential hosts of the 2021 Women's Rugby World Cup.

The sport's governing body World Rugby made the announcement today, following the August 10 deadline for any countries wishing to bid for the tournament.

Initially six countries expressed a formal interest in hosting the event, which was the highest number ever.

In the end none of England, Wales, France or Portugal submitted bids, however.

The 2021 tournament will be the first to feature various format changes, which include extending the event from 23 days to 35. A quarter-final stage will also be played for the first time, while the squad sizes will increase from 28 to 30 players.

It is hoped the changes will improve athlete welfare by allowing more rest between matches, whilst also maintaining the highest possible standard of play.

With Australia and New Zealand the only countries shortlisted, an Oceania host is guaranteed.

[View the full news item](#)

Sport Industry Group reports (20 August 2018)

UEFA launches women's docu-series

UEFA has released video trailers of a bold new women's football mini-documentary series focusing on the back-stories of Europe's most successful players.

The 'Strong is' series of three short films documents the journeys of the most distinguished players and personalities in the women's game, dealing with subjects ranging from personal tragedy and injury trauma, mental health, sexuality, and self-confidence.

Swedish captain Nilla Fischer, PFA Player of the Year and Chelsea forward Fran Kirby; and current UEFA Women's Euro champion Shanice van de Sanden of the Netherlands are among the players featured.

The series is being released to coincide with the latest round of UEFA European qualifying for the FIFA Women's World Cup France 2019. It forms part of UEFA's wider #WePlayStrong campaign – the frontline of the European football governing body's five-year strategy to make football the number one sport for girls and women in countries across the continent.

The new films address the on- and off-field challenges each player has had to overcome in their journey, tackling “real-life issues” in line with what UEFA describes as a “fundamental pillar” of its strategy to increase participation and awareness of women's football. It follows the success of UEFA's 'Press Play' day-in-the-life vlog series which has attracted more than five million views since January.

[View the full news item and access the video trailer](#)

Inside the games reports (20 August 2018)

Gender balance and term limits highlighted as areas of weakness in second AIOWF governance review

A lack of female representation and term limits were highlighted as areas of weakness in the Association of International Olympic Winter Sports Federation's (AIOWF) second governance review.

The AIOWF review assessed the governance of its seven member International Federations - biathlon, bobsleigh and skeleton, curling, ice hockey, ice skating, luge and skiing - with a questionnaire and evaluation process development by sports governance consultancy I Trust Sport.

Gender balance was cited as an area of weakness as only one Federation had more than 25 per cent female representation on their Executive Board.

The response followed a new question being added on gender balance this year.

The figure was claimed to follow a general pattern that many International Federations have only one or two women on their Board, which is viewed as similar across both Association of Summer Olympic International Federation (ASOIF) and AIOWF members.

[View the full news item](#)

Beyond Sport reports (21 August 2018)

Reebok Celebrates women with new campaign

Reebok has become the latest brand to throw the spotlight on female empowerment with its new UK campaign by Venables Bell & Partners.

The global sport fashion label launched its latest, multi-channel push with creative celebrating a range of women each helping to bring positive change to the world in her own unique way.

They include crossfit superstar Katrin Davidsdottir, model Gigi Hadid, music artist Ariana Grande and actresses Danai Gurira and Nathalie Emmanuel, alongside women who have built history-making organisations based on female empowerment.

Reese Scott, founder of Women's World of Boxing; Shannon Kim Wagner, founder of the Women's Strength Coalition; Jenny Gaither, founder and CEO of Movemeant Foundation; and Yelda Ali, founder of Camel Assembly are all among those to be celebrated.

The work, which sees Reebok revisiting its female-oriented heritage, is the latest evolution of the brand's 'Be More Human' campaign, calling on people "to be the best version of themselves physically, mentally and socially. "

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (21 August 2018)

Women in sport, doping and perspectives on hosting Olympics to feature at Olympism in Action Forum

Panel discussions on women in sport, combating doping and cities' perspectives on hosting the Olympic Games have been included on the provisional programme for the Olympism in Action Forum in Buenos Aires.

The first Olympism in Action Forum, introduced by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), is due to take place on October 5 and 6.

It is expected to bring together around 2,000 individuals, including Olympic Movement representatives, business executives, political leaders and civil society members, before the Summer Youth Olympic Games in Argentina's capital city.

The Forum is aimed at fostering an open exchange of innovative ideas while addressing the most relevant topics related to sport and society.

A provisional schedule for the event has listed several of the topics set to be discussed, with the subjects seen as directly linking to recent IOC reforms.

The Forum is provisionally set to begin with an interview on the "Power of the Olympic Truce", with a focus being placed on Pyeongchang 2018.

It is due to be followed by panel discussions titled "Women in Sport" and "Combating Doping in Sport: A Battle Worth Fighting".

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (21 August 2018)

World Olympians Association appoint development officer for Asia with eye on Tokyo 2020

The World Olympians Association (WOA) has appointed Jovina Choo as development officer for Asia, it has been announced here.

The Singaporean sailor has been appointed to the role created with the 2020 and 2022 Olympic Games in Tokyo and Beijing in mind. She will be tasked with supporting the growth and expansion of National Olympians Associations (NOAs) in Asia as the continent prepares to host back-to-back Games.

Today's announcement was made at the second Olympians Associations of Asia held alongside the Asian Games currently taking place.

Choo, who competed at Rio 2016, is the first-ever development officer to work for the WOA.

The 28-year-old will initially work during a six-month pilot scheme with NOAs in Malaysia, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Indonesia and Philippines.

The WOA hopes to make the position permanent in Asia and expand the programme to all five continents.

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (23 August 2018)

Chinese coach who struck female player sent home from Wheelchair Basketball World Championships

A Chinese coach who struck one of his female players has been sent home from the Wheelchair Basketball World Championships as the sport's governing body defended its decision to initially only suspend him for one match.

International Wheelchair Basketball Federation (IWBF) secretary general Maureen Orchard confirmed he had been removed from the tournament in Hamburg after the organisation ruled it was "clear a one-game sanction was not suitable for the action".

The IWBF decision follows the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) claiming the one-game ban was "too lenient" and "inadequate".

The IPC also urged the IWBF to take further action against the coach, a call the worldwide governing body appear to have heeded.

The incident sparked widespread outrage after video footage following China's 80-20 win over Algeria on Saturday (August 18) showed the assistant Chinese coach hitting the player during the half-time team-talk.

The IWBF were criticised for the severity of the suspension but the body has claimed the Tournament Technical Committee "took immediate action within the confines of their authority".

[View the full news item](#)

Inside the games reports (23 August 2018)

Beijing hosts IIHF Asian women's training camp

An Asian women's training camp has been held by the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) in Beijing to help the development of the sport in the region.

A total of 58 players and 12 coaches from nine IIHF member countries participated at the camp in the Chinese capital, due to host the 2022 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Asian coaches and players exchanged ideas and renewed friendships during the week-long event, according to the IIHF.

The camp was also seen as an important step for the development of Chinese ice hockey prior to Beijing 2022.

[View the full news item](#)

University of Tennessee Center for Sport, Peace, and Society Update for August 2018:

1. CSPS preparing for 10th women's leadership exchange: In September and October 2018, the University of Tennessee Center for Sport, Peace, and Society will host the 10th installment of the U.S. Department of State and espnW [Global Sports Mentoring Program](#). In partnership with key, executive women leaders at U.S.-based organizations, 16 international female delegates will cultivate business and leadership skills in an American sports environment. Upon return to their home countries, delegates will implement their Action Plan—a strategic business plan to improve the lives of women and girls through sports from

grassroots to governance. In turn, they will join the network of change makers and alumni working in 72 countries to improve the lives of those from underserved communities. In six years, GSMP alumni have directly impacted more than 250,000 people through their programs, and in 2013, the GSMP was named one of the 10 best diplomatic achievements in the world.

Learn more about the GSMP [here](#).

Partnering U.S. organizations include Google, ESPN, Gatorade, the University of Connecticut, Big East Conference, Saatchi & Saatchi, and the NCAA, Burton Snowboards, Fox Sports, the USTA, NHL, and San Antonio Spurs.

International delegate countries include Israel, Palestine, Nigeria, Zambia, Timor-Leste, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia, Serbia, Brazil, Malaysia, Vietnam and Bangladesh. Of these countries, Israel, Timor-Leste, Myanmar and Malaysia are represented for the first time.

2. ESPN honors CSPS partnership with Sports Humanitarian award: One of our cornerstone initiatives, the U.S. Department of State and espnW [Global Sports Mentoring Program](#), an initiative that aims to empower women and girls worldwide through sport, was awarded the Stuart Scott ENSPIRE award on July 17 at the 2018 Sports Humanitarian awards.

Press release available [here](#) that includes lots of great details

Link to our director's acceptance speech from the ESPN broadcast available [here](#)

3. CSPS leads student-athlete international exchange to Ecuador: In July, the Center for Sport, Peace, and Society led members of the VOLeaders Academy—a student-athlete-based leadership program in partnership with the University of Tennessee Department of Athletics and the Center for Leadership and Service—on a 10-day international service-learning and disability rights-focused exchange to Quito, Guayaquil, and Quevedo, Ecuador. The 18 members of this year's class, which included 11 female student-athletes, experienced sport for social change programs first-hand and saw the hope that sport-based programming can bring, especially for women and girls from low-income and poverty-stricken communities.

Link to nine videos from the trip available [here](#)

Brian Canever, M.S.
Digital Content Manager
Center for Sport, Peace, and Society
Phone (c): 551-221-1382
E-mail: bcanever@utk.edu

www.sportandpeace.utk.edu

Events....

WorldWideWomen Girls' Festival

6 October 2018, Santa Clara University Campus, Silicon Valley, California

It is truly a day of power and possibility for thousands of girls and their families. Our 2016 & 2017 festivals attracted over 7,000 attendees and were amazing—some said life-changing—events and this year will be even more powerful and exciting.

Come enjoy over 100 activities—an interactive EXPO, Maker's Fair, 20+ workshops, all day performances, coding classes, contests and much more!.

[View more details](#)

**The 31st Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation (ACHPER) International Conference: Reconfiguring HPE and Sport to Enrich Communities
14 - 16 January 2019, Canberra, Australia**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL 7 SEPTEMBER 2018

The 31st ACHPER International Conference: Reconfiguring HPE and Sport to Enrich Communities will have both national and international appeal. This event has already attracted high quality keynote speakers from overseas and Australia and promises to be a showcase of contemporary and future focused ideas that will ensure that it is a must attend event for Health and Physical Education professionals and health, sports and other industry stakeholders.

We invite abstracts for paper presentations, workshops/interactive sessions, symposia and posters addressing one or the following themes:

- Community Engagement
- Contemporary Practices
- Public Policy Influence

Abstract submissions close on Friday, 7th September 2018
To submit your abstract please [click here](#).

[View more details about the conference](#)

Publications of interest...

Implementation Guide for Integration of Refugees Through Sport #PlayTogether. International Sport and Culture Association, et al, June 2018 (60 pages)

This implementation guide is designed to introduce you to the topic of Integrating Refugees Through Sport by looking at the relevant theory that is the foundation for the area, the present situation – specifically in Europe, as well as the challenges and barriers that NGOs, sports clubs and other organisations or individuals often face when implementing or running an IRTS programme. This guide looks at the issue from the perspective of those involved: the refugees. Therefore, it also includes an overview of the barriers and challenges through the eyes of those displaced, and trying to build a new life in a new land. Potential solutions to these issues are also examined. So get inspired, get active, and help make a positive difference to both your community and people's lives.

[Access the guidance on this page](#)

[View details of the programme](#)

Journal of Physical Activity and Health: The Official Journal of the International Society for Physical Activity and Health. Volume 15, Issue 8, August 2018

Editor - the abstracts from the articles in this current edition to be placed on their website are now available.

[View the abstracts](#)

Also, the September edition now available - [please view](#)

Specific countries

AUSTRALIA

**Australasian Leisure Management reports (1 August 2018)
Sports Commission to rebrand as Sport Australia**

The Australian Sports Commission is to be given new branding and a new agenda as Sport Australia.

Announced today as part of an ambitious agenda to make Australia the most active sporting nation in the world, the new look national sporting body is to launch a fresh marketing and community creative platform, 'Move It', as part of a remit to implement the *Sport 2030 plan and promote sports and activity across Australia.

Sitting within the Federal Department of Health, Sport Australia will take its branding cues from the five stripes motif used by the Australian Institute of Sports (AIS), the peak high-performance sporting body, and representing the five Olympic rings.

Federal Minister for Sport Bridget McKenzie unveiled the Sport Australia entity as part of the Australian Government's national sport plan.

Sport Australia, working alongside high performance leader the Australian Institute of Sport, will aim to provide a coordinated approach to sport from grassroots participation to international competition.

Its expanded vision will also include an enhanced role to increase physical activity among Australia's increasingly sedentary population.

[View the full news item](#)

*** Sport 2030: Participation, Performance, Integrity, Industry. National Sport Plan. Australian Government, 2018 (80 pages)**

The Australian Government has a clear and bold vision for sport in Australia — to ensure we are the world's most active and healthy nation, known for our integrity and sporting success. Sport 2030 has four key priority areas which will, when fully implemented, create a platform for sporting success through to 2030 and beyond. The priorities are:

- Build a more active Australia — More Australians, more active, more often;
- Achieving sporting excellence — National pride, inspiration and motivation through international sporting success;
- Safeguarding the integrity of sport — A fair, safe and strong sport sector free from corruption; and
- Strengthening Australia's sport industry — A thriving Australian sport and recreation industry.

Sport 2030 brings together the knowledge and insight of many people from across the sporting sector and the general public who provided submissions, attended consultation sessions and contributed ideas.

[Download a copy](#)

Another related publication of interest...

Report of the Review of Australia's Sports Integrity Arrangements. Department of Health, August 2018 (280 pages)

The Review of Australia's Sports Integrity Arrangements (the Review) was commissioned by the Turnbull Government in response to the growing global threat to the integrity of sport - recognising that a fair, safe and strong sport sector free from corruption is inherently valuable to sports participants, sporting organisations and the 14 million Australians who participate in sport annually.

The Review Panel undertook extensive stakeholder consultations, holding over 40 stakeholder meetings and reviewing over 30 written submissions. Submissions provided to the National Sport Plan portal operated by the Australian Sports Commission that referenced sports integrity were also considered.

[Download a copy](#)

In March this year the WA Government have provided multicultural female uniform guidelines for key sports:

Multicultural Female Uniform Guidelines

Women from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds are now be able to participate in sport more easily, with the release of this Australian-first multicultural uniform guide.

Sports:

[Football \(Australia Rules\)](#)

[Basketball](#)

[Cricket](#)

[Gymnastics](#)

[Netball](#)

[Football \(soccer\)](#)

[Volleyball.](#)

[View more details](#)

Victoria Government (1 August 2018)

Respect Victoria

Doors have opened on Victoria's first ever dedicated family violence prevention agency, as part of the Victorian Government's efforts to create a Victoria free from family violence.

Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence Natalie Hutchins today officially opened [Respect Victoria](#) and announced the organisation's Chief Executive Officer and Chair.

Respect Victoria's inaugural board chair will be Melanie Eagle, who is currently the CEO of Hepatitis Victoria and a former Mayor of the City of St Kilda.

.....
Respect Victoria will work to address gender inequality as a root cause of family violence. A statutory authority to be enshrined in legislation, it will work to change the attitudes, social norms and culture that lead to family violence and violence against women.
.....

[View the full news item](#)

Also - this was established around 18 months ago....

Victoria Government - Office for Women in Sport and Recreation

The Office for Women in Sport and Recreation was created by the Victorian Government in response to the Inquiry into Women and Girls in Sport and Recreation.

It is the first Office of its kind in Australia and is supported by the biggest investment by any state government into facilities, participation, leadership opportunities, and professional and grassroots sport and active recreation for girls and women.

Our intention is to level the playing field for women and girls across all roles in sport and active recreation.

We aim to support and encourage women in leadership roles, ensuring they are not subject to unfair or unfavourable treatment because of their gender, sexuality, appearance, age or any other personal characteristics protected by anti-discrimination law.

As the inaugural Head of the Office for Women in Sport and Recreation, I stand with Victorian Sport CEOs and Change Our Game Champions and say that as a collective, we do not support the vilification of or discrimination towards any CEO based on personal attributes that stand outside their professional conduct.

We stand with the Boards and Executives that lead our national and state sporting associations, and support the important role that CEOs – of all genders and backgrounds – play in this sector.

It is vital that Australian sport remains an important place to support diversity and inclusion and has no tolerance for discrimination.

Dr Bridie O'Donnell, Head, Office for Women in Sport and Recreation

[View their website](#)

People Dancing UK (8 August 2018)

Crossing continents - 'Awesome' images from 11 Million Reasons to Dance head for Australia

The cross-continental tour of our [11 Million Reasons to Dance](#) photography exhibition, featuring the universal appeal of images captured by [Sean Goldthorpe](#), will break new ground when it lands in Tasmania, in late August.

It's hoped a wider presence across Australia will be developed once a selected number of images from the exhibition are put on show at the [Moonah Arts Centre \(MAC\)](#), Glenorchy, just north of Hobart, in Tasmania (24 Aug – 14 Sept).

The 11 Million Reasons to Dance photography will feature as part of the MOVES Festival, a celebration of dance in all its forms and diversity.

“Featuring Deaf, sight-impaired and dancers living with a disability with such awesome creativity, always challenging our perceptions, we're very excited to present 11 Million Reasons to Dance as part of the Moonah MOVES Festival, with its vision that everybody can dance,” said Rebecca Holmes of MAC.

With the support of the British Council, the People Dancing commissioned exhibition has already toured the UK, Europe and Asia, reimagining iconic dance scenes from film. Venues have stretched from Croatia to Hong Kong, Seoul to Singapore, for example.

[Source of information](#)

CANADA

Inside the games reports (31 July 2018)

Mary Moran named chief executive of Calgary 2026 Olympic bid

Mary Moran, the current President of Calgary Economic Development, has been named as the chief executive of the Calgary 2026 Winter Olympic and Paralympic bid team.

She was introduced at a press event today at the Canada Olympic Park, which was used to stage the 1988 Winter Games in Calgary.

Moran is the first woman to be named head of a Canadian Olympic bid and to make time for her new role, she will take a leave of absence from her position at Calgary Economic Development.

She is now in charge of promoting Calgary's ambitions to host the Games in 2026 as no official bid has been submitted yet to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

[View the full news item](#)

GERMANY / HUNGARY

Letter (15 August 2018) : Protest against the law to forbid the teaching of Gender Studies in Hungarian Universities

Dear Janice,

Last week, the German Society for Gender Studies was particularly concerned with the Hungarian government's ban on gender studies in Hungary. The specialist society participated in the protest against the interference in the freedom of science, as is clear from the ***attached letter**. It also went to German MEPs, EU research funding institutions and selected commissioners* as well as the DAAD and AVH, who both cooperate with Hungary.

I would like to propose to publish the letter in the next newsletter. Thank you very much.

With kind regards
Gabriele Sobiech

Prof. Dr. Gabriele Sobiech
Hochschulsportzentrum
Schwarzwaldstr. 175
79177 Freiburg

[*View the letter](#)

IRAN

Inside the games reports (8 August 2018)

Iran confirm woman will still carry flag at Asian Games Opening Ceremony as shooter named replacement for Alizadeh

Iran has chosen shooter Elaheh Ahmadi to become the first woman to carry its flag at the Opening Ceremony of this month's Asian Games in Jakarta, it has been confirmed today.

She replaces Olympic taekwondo bronze medallist Kimia Alizadeh, the original choice before she had to pull out of the Games earlier this week after suffering an anterior cruciate ligament injury during a training session.

The 36-year-old Ahmadi is a four times Asian Games medallist having won three medals - two silvers and a bronze - at Guangzhou 2010 and a silver at Incheon 2014.

[View the full news item](#)

Editor - thanks once again to our national rep Robabeh Rostami for supplying an overview of activity in Iran for August, and all the excellent photographs, in a very informative news compilation - view the August edition [here](#)

An example:

Asian medal table 2018 / Iran with 14 gold still in fourth place (25 August 2018)

Girl's national team in sport of kabaddi took gold medal in Asian Jakarta tournament.

Athletes who won the silver medal: Marjan Salahshorei in Pomse Taekwondo, Zahra Kiani Talo Woshoo, Elaheh Mansoriyan Woshoo, Shahrbanu Mansoriyan Woshoo, Boating team compose four girls: Maryam Karami, Mahsa Javer, Nazanin Rahmani and Maryam Omid Parsa, Nazanin Molaei Boating.

Athletes who won the bronze medal: Mahlagha JamBozorg Shooting, Boating team compose two girls: Maryam Karami, Parisa Ahmadi, Nahid Kiyani Tekwandow, Hamideh Abassali Karate, and Maryam Abasali.



JAMAICA

Inside the games reports (20 August 2018)

New Zealand great leads netball coaching clinics in Jamaica

Netball great Irene van Dyk has led a series of coaching clinics in Jamaica at the National Arena in Independence Park.

The three days of clinics in Kingston focused on helping to raise standards and promote healthy lifestyles.

Van Dyk's involvement came as part of a collaboration between the New Zealand High Commissioner and Jamaica.

[View the full news item](#)

UK

Sport and Recreation Alliance (9 August 2018)

Running initiative boosts self-esteem of primary school kids

In the latest of our series of grassroots success stories, we examine the work of Mini Mermaids and Young Tritons UK, the running club focusing on boosting self-esteem in young girls and boys.

About

Mini Mermaids UK is an after school and community programme focusing on completing a 5k challenge. The programme aims to increase self-esteem and confidence in primary school girls aged between seven and eleven years old, while encouraging them to take part in movement and activity. The multi-year curriculum, running in 6-8 week sessions, includes group discussions, tracking their progress in their diaries, games, movement and activities. The programme runs in both schools and community centres and was founded in 2015 by Hannah Corne, who brought it over from the United States.

At the end of the programme, the girls take part in a 5km challenge. It encourages them to complete the course however they like as they are in control. They use all the skills they have learnt throughout the programme to complete it. This final challenge helps the girls to set

goals, rely on their inner strength (physical, mental and emotional) and understand the correlation between physical activity and overall well-being.

Impact

[View the full news item](#)

Women's Sport Trust (6 August 2018)

There is a real and growing demand for more women's sport in the UK

The growing commercial opportunity in women's sport has long been hard to quantify. As part of a collaboration with Women's Sport Trust and England Hockey, Nielsen Sports has released data that shows, the scale of the market in the UK and importantly, the opportunities for sponsors and broadcasters.

For the first time, we can quantify the scale of interest in women's sport – and it's big. 59% of the UK population have an active interest in women's sport – that's a potential market of 24 million people. This is a massive and largely untapped opportunity for brands and broadcasters.

Today, over half (59%) of the UK population is interested in women's sport – 40% of people would consider attending live women's sport, 42% would watch more if it was

accessible on free TV and over a third (37%) would watch more if it was accessible free online.

Over recent years, the huge success of women's teams, athletes and events, has fuelled a revolution in women's sport and the data is now telling that story.

While athletics and tennis lead the way, there is also considerable interest in the major team sports:

- 87% of athletics fans in the UK are fans of women's athletics
- 83% of tennis fans in the UK are fans of women's tennis
- 72% of cycling fans in the UK are fans of women's cycling
- 71% of hockey fans in the UK are fans of women's hockey
- 57% of golf fans in the UK are fans of women's golf
- 38% of football fans in the UK are fans of women's football
- 36% of rugby union fans in the UK are fans of women's rugby union

[View the full news item](#)

The report.....

The Real Value of Women's Sport. Nielsen Sports insight produced in partnership with Women's Sport Trust and England Hockey. Women's Sport Trust and England Hockey, August 2018 (20 pages)

New research demonstrating the value and importance of women's sport.

[View the document on-line](#)

Women in Sport - E-Newsletter, August 2018 - [available to view](#)

Inside the games reports (20 August 2018)

Ice Hockey UK hold first women's development camp in Sheffield

Ice Hockey UK have held their first Women's Development Camp in Sheffield as they aim to develop a pathway for young female players.

The England and Great Britain women programmes announced last month they were looking to create a from under-13 through to full international levels with the Under-18 and Great Britain Women's squads.

Coaches from the England national team programme joined Great Britain staff in delivering a two-day camp on August 18 and 19. England head coach Ben Pitchley was among those to take part in the camp.

[View the full news item](#)

SSE plc energy company (21 August 2018)

[Football] SSE Girls Sport Participation survey

More parents see football as a career choice for their daughters than ever before.

Younger mothers and fathers embrace football revolution for girls according to SSE Girls Sport Participation survey.

More girls in the UK are being encouraged into football thanks to a positive shift in attitude among parents, says new research conducted by SSE.

The first 'SSE Girls Sport Participation survey', published today, reveals that younger parents in particular are leading the way in promoting the beautiful game to their daughters.

Exploring parental attitudes to sport and football as well as participation and encouragement, the survey shows UK mums and dads are increasingly enthusiastic about their daughters playing football, going to see a professional match or even enjoying a career in the sport.

A recurring theme was the role that younger parents, those aged 40 and under, already play and suggests a new generation of mums and dads can lead the way in driving the future participation of girls in football.

The *full report can be found [here](#).

Among the key findings are:

- Being part of a team and increased physical fitness are the benefits for girls of playing football most cited by parents (both 78%)
- Dads are generally happier than Mums for their daughters to pursue playing, coaching or administration careers in football, with younger parents more comfortable than older peers
- When it comes to football careers being achievable for daughters it is younger parents who are more likely to agree. While Dads are more comfortable, when it comes to feeling achievable it is Mums who are most likely to agree that (with talent) there should be no limits to progress
- Younger (under the age of 40) parents are most likely to agree that they would take their daughter to a women's professional game (38% of younger Dads strongly agree) and to a men's professional game (39% of younger Dads strongly agree)
- Younger Mums are most likely to disagree that 'Football is a sport for boys'
- Age 5-7 is the sweet spot for girls to take up football. 53% of girls currently playing football first started at this age.

[View the full news item](#)

***The report:**

Girls Sport Participation. Insight Beyond Data; Sports Sponsorship and Data Research. SMG YouGov Insight for SSE plc energy company, August 2018 (49 pages)

SSE is the energy behind women's football across the UK, partnering with both the English and Scottish Football Associations to promote not only elite women's competitions (e.g. The SSE Women's FA Cup) but also grassroots participation for girls of all ages.

SSE Wildcats football clubs have sprung up all over the country encouraging girls football participation and a Dads and Daughters campaign has encouraged girls to play the game with the support of their Dads.

This research aims to investigate attitudes to girls football amongst parents of girls, the extent to which stereotypes as a sport for boys still prevail, where barriers to participation exist and how they could be overcome.

[Access the report on this page](#)

Sport and Recreation Alliance (23 August 2018)

Learn how to develop your inner-strength

Sport Cardiff's Girls Together campaign aims to provide the women and girls of Cardiff with a selection of local activities where participants can be sure to receive a friendly welcome and get active with other like-minded females.

About

Girls Together places a focus on engaging teenage girls who are currently inactive and lack confidence or self-esteem. The #INNERSTRENGTH project operates in curriculum time and as a community programme. A pilot programme was created targeting three secondary schools in Cardiff and a community version from one leisure centre in a deprived area of the city.

Girls Together developed relationships with several partners to progress the project, including Street Games – Us Girls, Cardiff Youth Service, Full Circle Education, Public Health Wales and Greenwich Leisure Limited. The pilot phase engaged 95 girls aged between 13-16 years.

Workshops were created to provide a platform for young people to share their opinions and discuss how they can challenge negative behaviours. During the workshops, participants complete several theory-based activities focused around issues that affect a young person's wellbeing. They cover topics such as body image, unhealthy and healthy behaviours, media literacy and barriers to participation.

Alongside the workshops, they deliver a number of physical activity interventions to inspire girls to be in control of their activity levels and understand the benefits of leading an active lifestyle. The activities provided are unique and help girls to consider classes they may not have tried before in a school environment such as spin, yoga and boxercise.

Impact

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[View the full news item](#)

England Squash (24 August 2018)

Get involved in Women's Squash Week 2018 - 22- 30 September

England Squash is proud and excited to support Women's Squash Week from 22-30 September. This week-long international celebration of women's squash is a great opportunity to raise the profile of squash, engage more females and shine a spotlight on the successes and challenges the sport faces.

Our campaign aims to address the gender gap in squash by encouraging more women and girls on court. According to the Active Lives Survey, only 13% of weekly players are female and just 22% of our coach members are women.

Our [Women's Squash Week toolkit](#) has all the ideas and resources you need to join the campaign - from event ideas to downloadable logos, images and videos.

[View the full news item](#)

Sport Northern Ireland news for August....

Active, Fit & Sporty – Sport Northern Ireland

The Active, Fit & Sporty project for 2018/19 aims to embed the sporting practices that previous interventions have fostered, to ensure that women and girls across Northern Ireland are given the best opportunity possible to not only get more active, but crucially to sustain their sporting activity.

Sported use their Engage Her programme to develop sports clubs across Northern Ireland into organisations who understand how to engage best with women and girls through tailored training and operational support. So far in 2018/19, 15 new groups have been recruited to take part in a programme of 1:1 support and 14 volunteers have been identified to deliver this support which will begin in September 2018. 2 Governing Bodies of sport have also been newly recruited, in order to impact women and girls at all levels throughout their sport. The training and support delivered will be using a new volunteer handbook resource pack which has also been recently developed to equip volunteers to effectively support the clubs involved.

Two key aspects of the Female Sports Forum's strategy for Active, Fit & Sporty involve increasing the visibility of female successes and inspiring role models. There have been many recent successes which the FSF have been supporting and highlighting, including Bethany Firth's victories in the pool at the World Para Swimming European Championships in Dublin and of course the Ireland Women's Hockey team taking Silver at the Hockey World Cup. The Female Sports Forum have also been continuing with their 'Active Female Competition' which highlights the special contribution individuals have made to female sport in Northern Ireland. This involves open nominations, from which 3 females are shortlisted, and then the public are given the opportunity to vote for their active female of the month through social media platforms. The most recent winner was Boccia Paralympian Claire Taggart, who recently represented Team GB at the 2018 World Boccia Championships.

WISPA (Women in Sport and Physical Activity) have been seeing fantastic engagement with women in the Belfast area, with many classes being run at full capacity week on week. A varied weekly programme includes yoga, circuits, dancercise, Pilates, boxercise and HIIT classes, with new bowls and golf lessons also recently being introduced. From September onwards, WISPA will be continuing their partnership with GLL and Better Leisure to offer £1 fitness classes at various centres across Belfast in the run up to Christmas. An exciting part of WISPA's programme has been the 'Active, Fit & Sporty Challenges' which have taken place on a monthly basis. This has seen an open invitation for females to join the challenge and take part in something new. July's challenge saw ten participants climb Slieve Loughshannagh in the Mourne Mountains, facilitated in partnership with Belfast Activity Centre. The second challenge was delivered with Lagan Dragons, where 16 women got the opportunity to dragon boat race on the River Lagan. Lagan Dragons are a team primarily made up of breast cancer survivors, along with those who have supported them through their treatment. Most recently, the Lagan Dragons went international as they took part in the International Breast Cancer Paddler's Commission Participatory Dragon Boat Festival in Florence, Italy.

The Youth Sport Trust, through its Girls Active programme, is extending its impact by offering the programme to a further 12 schools. Schools will receive full training, resources and support for the teachers involved in the programme and the girls that are identified as leaders

going forward. YST will also continue to support the existing 17 schools involved in the programme to embed the programme as a whole school approach which fully promotes girls leading physically active lives. YST will also be piloting the 'My Personal Best' programme which is being offered to existing schools involved in Girls Active. My Personal Best is a training programme which enables PE teachers to confidently teach life skills to all young people explicitly through PE. It enables young people to reflect on their level of skill and identify how to improve in key life skills such as resilience, responsibility, communication and empathy.

Disability Sport NI work specifically towards the development of sporting opportunities for women & girls with disabilities. So far in 2018/19 the Active Recreation Officer has been liaising with 6 groups from across Northern Ireland with the view of delivering FitHer sessions at the end of September. The partnership strand of this project is building good momentum, with 12 Special Schools and 12 corresponding local mainstream post-primary schools engaged to take part in the programme from September onwards, which will provide the post-primary children with opportunities to coach activities in the special schools. The final key part of DSNI's project is to facilitate more females with a disability in attending sporting events, with international football and netball matches as well as interprovincial rugby union matches currently being targeted.

Ulster University's programme continues to engage with female students through its leadership, mentoring and social events projects. Students are encouraged to attend the physical activity programmes, help to mentor new first year students in the School of Sport and become 'Active Champions' for sport at Ulster. A key focus of Ulster University's programme this year is on research into the impact of the Active, Fit & Sporty programme as a whole. The six organisations will follow a standardised approach across their programmes in order that the change in behaviours of participants can be established and measured. This research project, through variables measured at two time-points, will assess the effects on the daily wellbeing of the female population through this intervention.

This will provide both Sport NI and the partners involved with a better understanding of how this intervention is enhancing the wellbeing of women and girls across NI, and will assist in planning for future programmes to embed the best sporting practices for women & girls.

Lauren Callender
Development Assistant, Sport Northern Ireland

USA

Inside the games reports (20 August 2018) **Hirshland aims to hit ground running as USOC chief executive begins work amid challenges**

Sarah Hirshland has claimed she is ready to "hit the ground running" having officially begun her role as United States Olympic Committee (USOC) chief executive today.

Hirshland's appointment was announced in July by USOC, ending their search for a replacement for Scott Blackmun, who resigned in February after eight years in the role.

Blackmun informed USOC staff in January that he was battling prostate cancer, while he had also received criticism in the wake of the Larry Nassar sexual abuse scandal.

Hirshland, formerly the chief commercial officer for the United States Golf Association, will be tasked with dealing with the continued fallout from the scandal.

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[Author information](#)

Abstract

Background: Female participation in sport has grown substantially over the last 4 decades.

Objectives: We investigated the association between sports participation and (1) later-life health outcomes and (2) later-life quality-of-life (QoL) measures among female college alumni.

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional study of female alumni between the ages of 40 and 70 years. Participants completed a questionnaire that included QoL measures assessing general health, negative consequences of alcohol use, mental health, and other self-reported health outcomes. We divided alumni into athletes and nonathletes. Between-group comparisons of health outcomes were adjusted for age; QoL measures were adjusted for age, exercise habits, cigarette smoking, alcohol use, and comorbidities.

Results: Questionnaires were sent to 47 836 alumni, 3702 (8%) responded. Forty-four percent of female respondents participated in collegiate sports. After adjusting for age, female respondents who participated in collegiate sports were more likely to exercise >3x/week (61.8% vs 50.2%; $P \leq 0.001$), view themselves in good/great health (91% vs 85%; $P < 0.001$), and less likely to have ever smoked (13.6% vs 25.3%; $P \leq 0.001$) or used recreational drugs (7.5% vs 9.5%; $P = 0.018$). A smaller proportion of female athletes reported hypertension (5.5% vs 13.5%; $P \leq 0.001$), high cholesterol (9.9% vs 17.0%; $P < 0.001$), and obesity (3.1% vs 6.8%; $P = 0.001$) compared with nonathletes. Participation in sports was, however, associated with decreased mobility ($R = 0.1826$; $P = 0.002$) and increased anxiety ($R = 0.039$; $P = 0.016$) QoL scores.

Conclusions: Sports participation for female collegiate athletes was associated with mostly positive health outcomes, but also with lower mobility and increased anxiety QoL scores.

[Source of information](#)
